



# Southeast News

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## LENT

### Lent Begins February 16

"Christians should pray all the time—so why Lent?"

"Christians should read their Bibles every day of the year — so what's the fuss for forty days?"

"Christians should re-commit themselves to Christ regularly — why just at this time?"

These questions are raised frequently. Translated into non-Christian terms, they raise other issues: "We know we are married, so why an Anniversary?" "We're aware that we were born and that we're getting older, so why a birthday celebration?"

Ash Wednesday, February 16, 1972, marks the beginning of Lent. Although the word "Lent" did not originate in Christian circles (it is derived from an Anglo-Saxon word meaning "spring"), Christians have come to use Lent — the forty days prior to Easter excluding Sundays — for a variety of expressions of Christian commitment:

*Pre-Communicant or Church Membership Classes*, conducted by the Pastor and/or other church officials.

*A Series of Bible Studies* may be initiated by either laity or clergy.

Some churches have a combination of *Prayer-Study sessions*.

Pastors frequently preach a *special series of Lenten sermons*. Some go on a spiritual retreat either alone or with their families or a few close friends.

Church choirs prepare and sing *music*

## "Development" Emphasized By OGHS - SOS March 12 Set For Offering

In 1971, the pressing crisis in East Pakistan drove nearly 10 million refugees into India. Resulting deaths from flood, plague, hunger and war in East Pakistan and India may be the greatest human tragedy since World War II. At the same time, drought and crop failure in Africa, political tensions in Southern Sudan and the Near East have created continuing need for basic ministries of food, shelter and medical programs.

Whenever disaster strikes, relief is quickly administered in Christ's name. UCBWM, in cooperation with Church World Service, provides blankets, tents, food and medicines in a matter of hours. Within days, plans are made for rehabilitation, shelter and homebuilding, restoration of basic health and water facilities under local Christian leadership in an international partnership.

But despite overwhelming demands for quick relief, the *key* word in Christian service is "development," an effort to help persons achieve dignity, well-being and hope.

The genius of the concept of development," says Dr. B. Kennedy Anthony, Director of the UCBWM Service Division, "is not how it relates to economic progress, but how it helps to liberate and

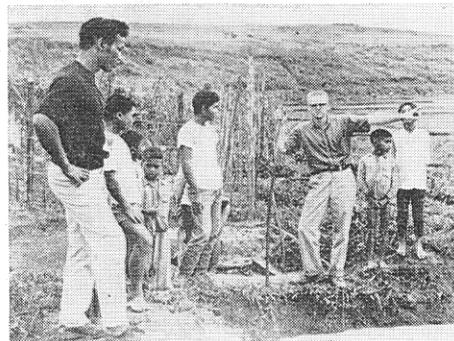
of Christ's passion.

*Dramas* re-enact similar themes, either in traditional or contemporary media.

Individual persons and families make a special effort at spiritual renewal and service, spending more time in prayer, doing extra reading, working out disciplined Bible study, fasting, giving time and energy to humanitarian efforts.

Special devotional booklets are prepared, including *The Fellowship of Prayer* (15c each), Eden Publishing House, 1724 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63103.

Of course, such recognition can be, and should be, made throughout the year. But what's wrong with celebrating Christ's sacrifice at this season? There may be a lot right about it.



Lee Brumback and Friends equip fellowmen to make their own progress."

Programs of development have revitalized nearly 100 communities in southern Greece through successful experiments in farming, stock raising, horticulture, bee-keeping, and marketing. A tractor was purchased for a farm complex in Togo, Africa. A creative vocational training device, "brigades," was funded in Botswana. These projects illustrate the wide range of development supported through the United Church of Christ "ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING — SHARE OUR SURPLUS" all-church offering.

SUNDAY, MARCH 12, is the suggested day for the OGHS - SOS offering in 1972. Early in January promotional materials were automatically shipped to every U.C.C. congregation. Your generous support is urged for this important work.

## SAVE THE DATES

Friday evening, March 10, through Sunday noon, March 12, 1972.

### NOTE THE PLACE

Camp Sumatanga in northern Alabama.

### GRAB SOME MONEY

Approximate cost per person: \$10.00.

### AND COME

If you are in school grades 9-12, or are a mature adult relating to young people of the above grades.

### EVENT

*Annual Conference, SEC Youth.*

Watch the mails . . . for details.



## Concerning The World Council Of Churches

Rev. Herbert B. Perry, Jr., Associate Minister of Woodfords Congregational Church, Portland, Maine, writes about the *Reader's Digest* attack on the World Council of Churches:

"As people who have personally been involved in the life of southern Africa and who have been responsible for administering funds from the World Council of Churches, Mrs. Perry and I want to register our strong disapproval of the misleading article that appeared in the *Reader's Digest* for October. We had intended to say nothing about this article that is filled with misleading innuendoes, quotations taken out of context, and clear misstatements of fact . . . From 1968 to January of 1971, Mrs. Perry administered the office of Christian Care in Salisbury, Rhodesia, receiving large sums of cash from the World Council of Churches offices in Geneva, Switzerland. Inasmuch as Mrs. Perry was responsible for how this money was spent, she reports with confidence that none of it was used for military activity, that all of it was used for social welfare, medical and educational purposes for African families whose wage earner had been arrested without charge and imprisoned without trial. We regard the *Reader's Digest* article as most unfair and irresponsible. It seems to be calculated to lead its readers away from the truth that we know: that the Christian Church has a ministry of compassion and service to perform among people whose only misfortune is to be born as members of a large black majority that is dominated by a tiny white minority in south Africa."

—Maine Christian Pilgrim

## Help! I Run A Sunday School!

The above is the title of a new book by Mary Duckert (Westminister Press, \$2.25), written for volunteers who seek to coordinate Christian education in the local church school.

Beginning with you and how you fit in, Miss Duckert then tackles issues such as how to get along with the old-timers, how to secure and train teachers, how to set goals, and how to administer the school itself.

She offers suggestions on how to make the first day run smoothly and how to deal with emergencies. There are also new ideas for celebrating holy days of the Christian year such as Lent, Easter

new MEDIA  
MEDIA news

The U.C.C. Office for Audio-Visual has recently purchased prints of three films, on care of the poor. These can be used effectively in combination or alone.

*Any Milk Today* (a 28-minute color film, rental \$10.00) helps identify the hurt of hunger which exists among millions of Americans. Two families are shown, one which simulates living on a welfare diet for a week, and a fourteen-member one which actually lives on a welfare diet every day. The film does not attempt to provide answers, but only to expose the hunger problem in this nation.

*To Feed the Hungry* (a 45-minute color television documentary, rental \$25.00) focuses on Chicago to examine hunger as a direct result of poverty. It shows the effect of hunger on the health of children, adults, and the elderly. The film implies that malnutrition impairs learning, and can even lead to crime, yet little is done by government or society to recognize or help solve the problem.

*Welfare: The Myths Exploded* (a 21-minute film, rental \$15.00) explores the meanness of this nation's myths about welfare while providing a battery of factual rebuttals. Statistics are meshed with the reality of living on welfare from those who know. The sound-track includes the following original songs: "Money Crop," "The Welfare Blues," "Mean Things Happening in This Land." This film is designed to be accompanied by the pamphlet, *Six Myths About Welfare*, available from the National Welfare Rights Organization, 1419 H. Street, Washington, D. C. 20005, 25c each.

All three films are available from the Office for Audio-Visuals, UCC (rentals) 600 Grand Avenue, Ridgefield, N. J. 07657.

and Christmas.

In the concluding chapter the author counsels, "You are the salt of the church school. And you must not lose your savor. You are the salt of the church. Tomorrow's church depends on today's for its leaders. The children in today's church are the leaders of tomorrow."

*Help! I Run a Sunday School* is a very practical and well-written book for lay persons who are trying to "run" a Sunday church school.

## Ground-Breaking Held At Knoxville, Tenn.



L-R: Rev. Donald Flick, Mrs. W. J. Moore, Mayor Leonard Rogers,  
Dr. Robert Livingston

Church of the Savior, Knoxville, Tenn., broke ground for their "Action Center" on November 7, 1971. Despite the cold winds which blew over the hill, attendance was large and enthusiastic.

Pastor Donald P. Flick spoke on "Building in Tension." He reminded his people that the main intent of the church is mission, that the action center should be viewed as a *means* to mission, and thus supported so that the fellowship can more adequately fulfill its function and reason for being.

Other participants included: W. J. Andes, Southeast Conference Minister; Leonard Rogers, Mayor of Knoxville; Rev. William Mounts, Westminster Presbyteri-

an Church; Robert Livingston, Chairman, Executive Building Committee; Dorman Blaine of the contracting firm; Rev. Jerry Hollar of the Knoxville Ministerial Association; Mrs. Ellen McCartt, representing the Women's Fellowship, and Paul Grobe, representing the church's young people. Mrs. Leo Kerr and Mr. L. C. Ely, two older members of the congregation, were present. Mrs. "Maggie" Moore observed her (?) birthday by turning a shovel of dirt!

Construction is under way at a contract price of \$116,380. Much of the work is to be undertaken by members, with inside finish being completed as funds are available.

## LAITY ACTIVE AT CHATTANOOGA PILGRIM

Arnold Slater, who retired recently from Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, has certainly left a rich legacy in concerned lay persons.

Under the "Moderatorship" of Mrs. Phil Henley and the leadership of many other lay persons, the full Sunday schedule is being maintained, ill persons are being visited, the building is its usual shiny self, and the friendly witness continues.

On Sunday morning, lay persons are leading the services and doing some of the preaching, too, until their new pastor Dr. David L. Beebe arrives early in March.

And the Annual Meeting was held on Wednesday, January 12, without a pastor at the helm! Needless to say, however, they look forward to even more effective days and years ahead as they minister in ever-changing Chattanooga.

## SEC Laity Contribute To Booklet

Prayers by Mrs. Arthur C. (Mollie) Curtright of Savannah, Ga., and Mr. Rene J. Chetelat of Birmingham, Ala., have been included in the 1972 Family Thank Offering booklet, *With Heart, With Mind*.

The prayer contributed by Mrs. Curt-right reads: "Heavenly Father, we are thankful that in the midst of chaos that threatens our very existence we have caught a glimpse of glory.

"Transform for us our gross indifference to your children who are helpless and hopeless, so that our deeds may interpret your love and pity.

"In this turbulent world of war and strife, reveal to your children the truth that there is only one man in the world and his name is ALL MEN.

"Through the inspiration of your holy spirit may our faith have feet and hands, a voice and a heart, so that it may minister to others and so that the gospel we profess may be seen in our everyday lives. Amen."

Mr. Chetelat has written the following prayer: "Lord, in our busy world of selfishness, we thank you for those who find the time, energy, and the will to help others.

"In our world of greed, we offer thanks for those concerned enough to give for others.

"In our private world of fear, we give thanks for those who, by example, help us to overcome our fears.

"We give thanks for those who, by loving one another with Christian concern, explode the myth that we cannot live in brotherhood.

"Help us, Lord, to start helping others. Amen."

## THE SOUTHEAST NEWS

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# "MINISTERIAL CHANGES IN THE SOUTHEAST CONFERENCE"



Rev. and Mrs. Arnold Slater

## Slater Close Ministry At Chattanooga

On Sunday morning, December 5, 1971, the congregation filled the sanctuary at Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga, Tenn. It was Anniversary Sunday, celebrating the 27-year ministry at that church of Arnold and Pauline Slater. Greetings were brought by W. J. Andes, Southeast Conference, U.C.C.; a letter was read from Rev. Donald Orander, Moderator of the U.C.C. Alabama-Tennessee Association. Church Moderator, Mrs. F. M. Henley, presented a generous gift from members of the church and friends.

At the afternoon Tea, friends came from far and near, despite the downpour. The joyous occasion honoring the Slaters was tinged with sadness that their leadership at Pilgrim Church would close effective December 31.

Arnold and Pauline met when he was a Vanderbilt ministerial student. Although Arnold has been called as pastor to the various areas where they have been, actually they have worked as a team. Arnold admits that Pauline has done everything except preach, then adds: "Sometimes she's done that to me."

As pastor, Arnold has sought to keep an "open pulpit" at Pilgrim Church — "to interpret the Gospel in terms relevant to our day; to be understanding of the individual whatever the circumstances; to speak to social conditions." All of the foregoing, he feels, are "consequent to the normal duties of a minister — the

## Sheppard Resigns At Roanoke First Church

After serving more than 18 years as pastor of the First Church, Roanoke, Ala., Rev. Olin Sheppard resigned as pastor of the church, effective December 31, 1971. During this time Mr. Sheppard has served as Clerk of the City of Roanoke, moderator of the Southeast Conference, and also as pastor of the New Hope Church, near Roanoke.

Although a small congregation, the church in Roanoke has made improvement in the facilities, installing a new organ and a new piano, remodeling and air-conditioning the entire church building.

The church gave an appreciation dinner honoring Mr. and Mrs. Sheppard and presented them with a silver coffee server.

—Mrs. Florence Dollar



## John Roemer, Pastor First Church Nashville, Resigns

On Sunday, October 3, 1971, John Roemer, pastor of First United Church of Christ, Nashville, Tennessee, submitted his resignation to become effective the end of December, 1971.

Mr. Roemer, during his seven-and-one-half years in the Southeast Conference served as Moderator of the Ala.-Tenn. Association; the Board of Directors of the Conference; currently the Board of Directors, UPLANDS and represented the Conference on Camp Ozone's Steering Committee.

He came to Nashville in 1964 from St. John's United Church of Christ, Cannelton, Indiana. Mr. Roemer is a graduate of Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois, and Eden Theological Seminary, Webster Groves, Missouri. He is a native of Louisville, Kentucky and married to the former Jane E. Schuster also of Louisville. Jennifer 13 and Lulie Ann 9 complete the family circle. Mr. Roemer is taking an indefinite leave of absence from the parish ministry and at this writing plans to remain in Nashville.

terests, and Arnold will play some golf and fish.



"We must have some sympathy with our youth."



REV. JOE A. FRENCH

## LAGRANGE, UNITED HONORS JOE A. FRENCH

On December 31, 1971, the Rev. Joe A. French retired from the active ministry after serving as an ordained minister for 43 years.

Knowing this was coming, the United Church of LaGrange, Ga., held a service of recognition on Sunday, November 14. Participants included: W. J. Andes, Mrs. Walter Hall, H. P. Beaird, and Dr. David I. Naglee, and members Maynard Burnham, George E. Golden, Jr., and J. Harrell Hardy. Hymns, anthems and scripture readings were favorites of Mr. French.

Mr. French was ordained into the Christian ministry in 1928 at Roanoke, Ala. He has served churches in Virginia, North Carolina, Alabama, and Georgia. During the LaGrange pastorate, he was very active in the local congregation, in the East Alabama Association, and in the Southeast Conference. At LaGrange, members have been added, the building was carpeted throughout, new pews and a new piano have been installed, as well as new heating and air-conditioning systems. He has reached out into surrounding communities, as well as contacting new residents of LaGrange. Compelled by a personal sense of mission, he turned the eyes of the congregation outward to a worldwide mission.

Appropriately, his parents were able to attend the Recognition Service, although his mother died suddenly a few weeks later. Other members of the family attending included a daughter, Mrs. Terry Sink, and her family from Winston-Salem, N. C. The other daughter, Mrs. Harold

## Orrin L. Keener Leaves Huge Legacy

The Rev. Dr. Orrin L. Keener, sociology instructor at Berea College since 1923, died December 7, 1971. He is survived by his wife Mary and four married children.

Born in 1893, he earned an A.B. degree from Oberlin College and later became principal of Country Life Academy, a high school of the Congregational Churches at Star, N. C. While serving the Congregational Church at Evarts, Ky., just a few years ago as interim pastor, he was ordained to the U.C.C. ministry.

His accomplishments have been many: He and his wife organized a "well baby clinic" where mothers rich or poor, black or white, could bring small children for medical check-ups and professional advice. He worked diligently for close relationships between college and community, devised ways to help the aged and infirm, and his love of young people kept him active in the Sunday School.

Dr. Keener was instrumental in bringing the first surplus commodities into Madison County for people living on little but hope. In the 1930's, he introduced goat herds to produce cheaper and more nutritious milk. Active in the "war on poverty," he helped to organize the Kentucky River Foothills Development Council in 1965.

A memorial service at Union Church, Berea, included the reading of his favorite Bible verses, two of his poems, and the singing of some spiritual songs from his own two published collections.

Memorial gifts are being made to the Keener Emergency Fund for Children at Berea Hospital.

Moser, was unable to be present because of the recent birth of a new grandchild for Joe and Anna French.

In the afternoon a Reception was held in the Fellowship Hall.

Joe and Anna French have purchased a house in Roanoke, Ala., where Joe will serve First Church part-time.

May their ministry continue a long time.

Extend Your Horizons

Read Your

Church Magazines



Rev. and Mrs. Frederick A. Meyer

## Frederick A. Meyer Pastor Central, Atlanta, Retires

Rev. Frederick A. Meyer, pastor of Central Congregational Church, Atlanta, Ga., retired as of Dec. 31, 1971.

Mr. Meyer received his B.A. degree at Columbia University and his B.D. degree at Union Theological Seminary, New York. Ordained in May 1929 at Tompkins Ave. Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., his first pastorate was at the Congregational Church, Newport, Vermont.

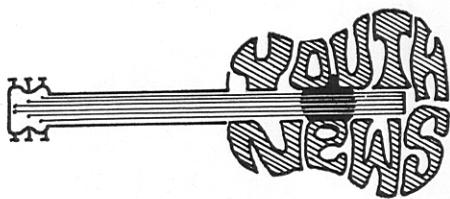
In January 1936, Mr. Meyer accepted a call to Rockville Centre, N. Y. During his 15-year ministry there, a second unit was added to the building including a sanctuary and additional classroom and office space. Membership grew from 500 to 1250.

Mr. Meyer became pastor of Mayflower Community Congregational Church, Minneapolis, Minn., in 1951, serving as pastor of that growing congregation until January 1951. He then participated actively in the Central Regional Office of the denomination, helping to raise approximately \$7,500,000 for the higher education work of schools, mission boards and conferences of the Congregational Christian Fellowship.

In January 1962 Mr. Meyer came to Central Church, Atlanta. Many changes have taken place since his installation. The old building downtown was sold and a new one erected at 2676 Clairmont Road, N.E., allowing expansion of the Christian education program and other activities. Membership has increased from less than 500 to 717.

Although Mr. Meyer announced in April 1971 his intention to retire, he has remained until a new minister was called. Anxious to be of service, he has already

(Continued on Page 6)



## Youth Creative Arts Contest 1972

If you are between 13 and 19 years of age and want to express through poetry, painting or a photograph some of your feelings, you should enter *Youth Magazine's* Creative Arts Contest this year. A great way to show your love, anger, joy, or outrage over an injustice!

Winning entries will be printed in a special 1972 issue of *Youth*, and each winner will receive \$25.

*Rules and guidelines* for the contest:

1. You must be between 13 and 19 years of age.
2. Your entry must be your original work. It may be something you've done as a school assignment, for your own enjoyment, or especially for the contest, but it must be your own.
3. You may submit a total of five entries, but please mail them all together, if possible.
4. Identify each entry with the title of the work, your name, age, address and church affiliation, if any. Place this information in the upper right corner of each writing entry, and on the back of each photograph or piece of art work you send.
5. Submit writing entries on 8½" x 11" sheets of paper. CREATIVE WRITING ENTRIES CANNOT BE RETURNED. So please keep a copy of your work.
6. All contributions must be mailed by May 1, 1972.
7. Send your original entries to: CREATIVE ARTS AWARDS, YOUTH Magazine, Room 1203, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19102. After the judging is completed, all entries other than Creative writing will be returned.

### Criteria for entries:

**CREATIVE WRITING** — Just about anything goes — poetry, fiction, essays, plays, editorials, humor, satire, true-to-life stories — whatever form you like and feel you're best at.

**ART WORK** — Any type of art work that can be reproduced in *Youth* is welcomed. This includes paintings, gags,

## How Teen-Agers Can Get Along With Parents

1. Try to understand their music. Play Glenn Miller's "Moonlight Serenade" on the stereo until you become accustomed to the sound.

2. Be patient with the under-achiever. When you catch your dieting Mom sneaking salted nuts, don't show your disapproval. Tell her you like fat mothers.

3. Encourage them to talk about their problems. Try to keep in mind that, to them, things like earning a living and paying off the mortgage seem important.

4. Be tolerant of their appearance. When your Dad gets a haircut don't feel personally humiliated. Remember, it's important to him to look like his peers.

5. And most vital of all, if they do something you consider wrong, let them know it's their behavior you dislike, not them. Remember, parents need to feel that they're loved!

—from *Pilgrims Progress*,  
Birmingham, Ala.

sketches, mosaics, prints, or editorial cartoons, story illustrations, graphic designs, or abstract art — any artistic expression of your own ideas or feelings. Because of mailing limitations, art work should not be larger than 12" x 15" nor smaller than 4" x 5".

**PHOTOGRAPHY** — Your print or prints should be black and white, and no larger than 12" x 15" nor smaller than 4" x 5". You do not have to do your own developing and printing to enter in this category.

**SCULPTURE** — If you've done a mobile, paper folding, wood carving or any piece of sculpture which you'd like to submit, send photographs which best present all the dimensions of your work.

## MEYER RETIRES

(Continued from Page 5)

visited Fort Walton Beach, Fla., in preparation for extended calling and survey work there. He also hopes to do some writing and studying and, if occasion demands, to serve as interim pastor within the Southeast area. The Meyers will retain their home in Atlanta.

A recognition dinner was given by the church membership on Friday, Jan. 7, in Fellowship Hall. A monetary gift was presented to Rev. and Mrs. Meyer as a token of the regard in which they are

## As Your Trustees Reorganize For 1972

Why not make it a priority to establish or re-affirm the policy of giving members of your congregation an opportunity to participate in the three all-church offerings of U.C.C. for 1972:

1. *One Great Hour of Sharing—Share Our Surplus* on March 12, the Fourth Sunday of Lent, supports overseas relief.

2. *Neighbors in Need* on October 1, World Community Sunday, supports the work of our denomination for racial minorities in the U.C. — student aid, community reorganization, economic development — through the Commission for Racial Justice.

3. *American Indian Sunday Appeal* on November 19, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, will undergird the new program of scholarships, youth programs, aid to churches, and economic development of our Council for American Indian Ministry.

All three of these authorized special all-church offerings are important. If your congregation has an established policy which prohibits your direct participation, plan some alternate method of support. Individual gifts may be sent, of course, to these causes through the Southeast Conference office, with the purpose clearly designated.

## Roy Bain Installed At Union Grove

North Alabama Association acted as Ecclesiastical Council on Sunday, December 12, 1971, for the Installation of Roy Bain as pastor of Union Grove Congregational Christian Church.

Participating in the 4 p. m. service were George Washington, Vice Moderator of the Association; Marvin Waugh, Earnest Shelton, Robert Shelton, George Fidler, and Henry Tuttle. The sermon of installation was delivered by Bobby Adenholt.

Roy Bain, a young man with deep commitments and seriousness of purpose, is a welcome addition to the Association and the Southeast Conference.

held.

May their future be one of peace, joy and continued accomplishment.

—Mrs. Carl H. Henry